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OPERATIONS CENTER

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## WASHFAX MESSAGE RECEIPT

20 JUNE 1988.  
SENT.  
1500 HRSFROM

Legislation Division, Office of Congressional Affairs

STAT

SUBJECT Qs and As related to Intelligence OversightCLASSIFICATION

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGES

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SENT TO:DELIVER TO:EXTENSIONROOMJames F.  
COLLINSNational Security Council, Director of Intelligence Policy  
The White House - OEOB

395-3371

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REMARKS:Please call Legislation Division, Office of Congressional  
Affairs upon receipt of this document. Please call

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Question: Do you believe it is wise for a Finding to be in writing and signed by the President? Do you believe signed Findings should be transmitted to the Intelligence Oversight Committees?

Answer: I believe it is appropriate for a Finding to be put in writing and signed by the President. Such a requirement will help to ensure that there will be no dispute on the scope of actions authorized by the Finding and Presidential approval for such actions.

The President has agreed to provide copies of signed Findings to the Intelligence Oversight Committees. This requirement has been memorialized in the National Security Decision Directive on Special Activities. The President agreed to this requirement because of the concern of some that without a signed finding, the the Intelligence Committees could not be assured that the text of the Finding they receive is the same as that signed by the President. However, I can understand your concern that the risk of disclosure of the Finding increases when more copies of the Finding are made available and that the disclosure of a signed Presidential Finding could subject the President to retaliation. The risk of disclosure must be weighed against the benefits the Intelligence Committees obtain by receiving a signed Finding. As long as the risk of disclosure is minimized by treating these Findings are treated in a very secure manner, the Administration is prepared to continue to provide signed Findings to the Intelligence Committees.